



Posting Date: 6-9-15

**DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSING REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION**

3 Capitol Hill, Conference Room 401, Providence, RI 02908

May 11, 2015@ 8:30 a.m.
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Linda Twardowski, President
Diane Blier
Jessica Brier
Anne Tierney
Lynn Blanchette
Kathleen Heren
Joanne Matthew
Delores Walters

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Elizabeth Bloom
Maria Ducharme
Maria Pezzillo
Kristen Young

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jane Morgan, Chief Legal Counsel
Donna Costantino, Chief, Office of Health Professions
Kimberly McNulty, Chief Implementation Aide

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Donna Policastro, ANA – RI
Bob Casey, Pro Se
Rosemary Costigan, Community College of Rhode Island
Linda McDonald, UNAP
Eleanor Clapprood, NPARI
Mary Barlas, Lincoln Tech, Director of Nursing
Pat Burbank
Lynn Blount

1. Establishment of a quorum

A meeting of the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was held on Monday, May 11, 2015 at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 401, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. A quorum was established and the Open Session meeting was called to order at 8:51 am on a motion by Linda Twardowski and seconded by Jessica Brier. Motion carried.

2. Presentation of the April 13, 2015 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Lynn Blanchette and seconded by Anne Tierney to accept the minutes. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Open Session minutes as presented. Motion carried.

3. President's Report

a. Executive Director Vacancy Update:

The Board was advised that resumes have been received and are currently being reviewed. Potential candidates will be contacted and interviews will be scheduled in the next week.

b. Statutory issues:

i. Licensing Concerns for all nurses:

ii. Late renewals: *A fee will not be put in place at this time due to legality issues and programming matters to be resolved.*

iii. Active/inactive: *Licenses that are inactive for a certain period of time will not be allowed to renew on-line, the licensee must come to the Department of Health to update their contact information before renewal.*

iv. Reinstatement:

v. Renewal process: *Health staff continues to meet and discuss creating system alerts within the program to ensure nurses with outstanding disciplinary issues cannot renew on-line but must do so in person.*

c. NCLEX update for nursing undergrad programs:

The Board reviewed and discussed the reports provided by Donna Costantino. The Board has requested a written plan from schools with scores less than 80% by its July 13th meeting. A failing school is required to submit a plan of action to the Board for evaluation.

i. Schools of Nursing Annual Reports – Donna Costantino:

Donna Costantino will locate the reports for each school or ask them to be resubmitted. The Board will review these at its July 13th meeting. The "School of Nursing Annual Report Checklist" was provided to all in attendance.

- d. Laboratory expertise query:
Tabled, more information is needed.
 - e. Nurse Compact Legislation:
Currently being held for further study within the Senate.
 - f. Open board seats:
With the resignation of Marie Jean, the Board now has three (3) vacancies. President Twardowski has asked for all parties to share the specific seat vacancies within their organizations ~~for~~ in an effort to locate qualified candidates.
 - g. Nurse awaiting board results ability to work as CNA?
The Board concluded that this is an institutional policy decision. The Board's only concern is that the licensee is working within the scope of their specific license.
 - h. NCSBN APRN distance program: HIVE:
CEU program will be established in the near future for APRNs.
 - i. NCSBN May 4th Delegates Meeting:
The main topics discussed were the compact agreements and federal BCI checks.
 - j. NCLEX conference Sept. 21 Portland, Oregon:
President Twardowski forwarded the event information to all Board members for their review.
4. Reports from the work groups of the Board of Nursing
- i. Task Force on Education, Lead: Maria Pezzillo:
No status reported.
 - ii. Task Force on Skill Remediation, Lead: Kristen Young:
The Board has requested to have a list of available programs on the website without an endorsement. Motion was made by Jessica Brier and seconded by Kathleen Heren to disband this task force. The Board voted unanimously to approve the disbandment of the Skill Remediation task force. Motion carried.
 - iii. Task Force for Website Improvement: Workgroup:
The Board has requested a meeting with Health's webmaster to discuss the need for certain documents be added as well as the overall appearance and content of the webpage.
 - iv. Task Force for Nursing Basic Education BON seats:
No status reported.

5. New Business

a. On-line Masters degree programs for licensure:

The Board does not have jurisdiction however only accredited programs will be accepted toward nursing licenses and CEUs.

Public Comment:

- *Donna Policastro informed the Board that Providence Monthly will dedicate an issue to Rhode Island's top nurses. Applications to nominate a nurse are available on their website. The deadline to submit is May 22nd. They will also hold an event to celebrate the nominees and all funds raised will be used for scholarships in the nursing field.*
- *Donna Policastro informed the Board that conference entitled "Building a Health Rhode Island" will be held on Friday, May 15th with various speakers. Attendees will earn six (6) contact hours. Tickets are available through the RISNA website.*

6. Motion to adjourn to Closed Session

Motion was made by Kathleen Heren and seconded by Diane Blier to adjourn to Closed Session at 10:24 am. Motion carried. President Twardowski read the following:

Pursuant to Sections § 42-46-4 and § 42-46-5(a)(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for the purpose of discussing job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure. Said individuals have been notified in advance by writing that they may request that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

Pursuant to Section § 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(2) for the purpose of discussing pending litigation with counsel from the Office of the Attorney General in the matter of Linda Tetu Mouradjian vs. the Department of Health and the Board of Nursing.

Pursuant to Sections § 42-46-4 and § 42-46-5(a)(4) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for investigatory proceedings regarding allegations of civil or criminal misconduct.

Pursuant to Section § 38-2-2(4)(B) Trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person, firm or corporation which is of a privileged or confidential nature.

7. Return to Open Session

The Board could not vote to seal minutes of the Closed Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-4, 42-46-5 and 42-46-7 of the Rhode Island General Laws due to the loss of a quorum, but will do so at its June 8, 2015 meeting.

8. Final Actions on all votes taken in Closed Session

The Board could not vote on any actions taken during the Closed session due to the loss of a quorum, but will do so at its June 8, 2015, meeting.

9. Adjournment

The next Board of Nursing Registration and Nursing Education meeting will be held Monday, June 8, 2015 at 8:45 AM at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 401, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Motion was made by Jessica Brier and seconded by Kathleen Heren to adjourn at 10:25 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly McNulty
Chief Implementation Aide
Office of Health Professionals Regulation